



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

RF

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/944,665 | 08/31/2001 | Toshiharu Furukawa | BUR919990305US1 | 3799 |

7590 10/10/2003
Whitham, Curtis & Christofferson, P.C.
11491 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 340
Reston, VA 20190

EXAMINER

LOKE, STEVEN HO YIN

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2811

DATE MAILED: 10/10/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Advisory Action

Application No.

09/944,665

Applicant(s)

FURUKAWA ET AL.

Examiner

Steven Loke

Art Unit

2811

--Th MAILING DATE of this communication app ars on th cover sheet with the correspondenc address --

THE REPLY FILED 30 September 2003 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

PERIOD FOR REPLY [check either a) or b)]

- a) ☒ The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
- b) ☐ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection. ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1. ☐ A Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in ~~37-CFR-1-192(a), or any extension thereof (37-CFR-1-191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.~~
2. ☒ The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:
- (a) ☒ they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
- (b) ☐ they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);
- (c) ☐ they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
- (d) ☐ they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: The amended portions of claim 1 would require further consideration and/or search.

3. ☒ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.
4. ☒ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) 29,30 and 33 would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
5. ☒ The a) ☐ affidavit, b) ☐ exhibit, or c) ☒ request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: See Continuation Sheet.
6. ☐ The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.
7. ☒ For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a) ☒ will not be entered or b) ☐ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: 18-28 and 31-44.

Claim(s) objected to: _____

Claim(s) rejected: 1-10, 29 and 30.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: 11-17.

8. ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is a) ☐ approved or b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
9. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____
10. ☐ Other: _____

Steven Loke
Primary Examiner

Steven Loke

Continuation of 5. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: Fig. 22C shows a contact opening [2210] formed in an opening in the isolation material adjacent the insulator material [2020] to a conductive region at an end of the pillar. Therefore, it is believed that the phrase "said layer of insulator" in claims 3 and 8 should change to "said insulator material". It is urged, in page 11 of the remarks, that by the present amendment claims 1 and 6 have been amended to include the recitation in regards to a borderless element. However, no such amendment exist for claim 6. Since claims 1 and 6 never disclose a contact is borderless to the gate structure, Alavi et al. is still read on claims 1-10.